

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, September 8, 2014 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Ken Masters, Mary Ann Beard Auditor and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

Commissioner Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the August 25th meeting were approved on a motion by Ken Masters with a second by Mark Bacon.

IT

IT director Randy Herbert had reported that three servers needed to be upgraded. Herbert explained that the servers could be ordered at the end of the year with installation in January and that the law enforcement recorder has already been updated. Ken Masters moved to allow Herbert the year end purchase. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WILLKIE SIGNS

The Commissioners received a request from Charlie Fields asking the county to replace the posts for the Wendell Willkie historic signs that are being refurbished at their four locations in the county. Ken Masters moved to allow the replacement. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

RUSHVILLE CITY LIBRARY

Library Attorney Julie Newhouse, Librarian Sue Otte, and several of the library board members were present to address the request of the Rushville City Library to expand their tax base to the entire county. The Commissioners agreed to conduct a public hearing on October 6th at 7:00p.m. in the assembly room of the Rush County Courthouse. Mark Bacon initiated the motion with Ken Masters offering the second. Motion carried.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker requested the Commissioners sign a renewal agreement allowing the purchase of Federal and State surplus items. The Commissioners, Auditor, Sheriff and Highway Superintendent have been added to the renewal. Ken Masters moved to approve with Mark Bacon seconding the motion. Motion carried.

Kemker explained that a \$18,415 rebate is being offered from Nextel for radios purchased with a Homeland Security Grant and asked that the money be deposited into a non-reverting fund for the purchase of new radios. The Auditor questioned if statute allowed the new fund since the radios were purchased with grant funds. Mark Bacon moved to take the request under advisement. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mr. Kemker stated that all the 800 MHz radios must be replaced within 5 years at an estimate of \$477,000.

MADRIGAL DINNER

Rush County High School Choir Director Paul Grizzard requested use of the Courthouse for the annual Madrigal Dinner. The program will take place the seconded weekend in December with practice starting on December 8th and the final performance on December 14th. Ken Masters moved to allow the request. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL POLICY

Judge Brian Hill questioned if it is policy to receive permission from the Commissioners and Council when a vacancy occurs? Hill made reference to our county's personnel policy which states that the authorization to fill a vacancy rests solely with the elected official. Judge Hill then requested that the resignation policy be addressed because advance notice of voluntary termination is not required only suggested. The Judge suggested a two week requirement or vacation pay be forfeited. The requested will be addressed by the personnel committee.

In related matters the following offices were granted permission to fill vacancies: The Clerk asked permission to replace a staff member that was hired by Superior Court. Motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Ken Masters. Mark Fields received permission to replace the juvenile probation officer who has been hired by the Prosecutor on a motion by Ken Masters and seconded by Mark Bacon. Kristi Marshall was granted permission to fill a vacant contract position in the Prosecutor's office. Mark Bacon made the motion and Ken Masters seconded the action.

TREASURER

Cindy Humphrey presented the Treasurer's report for August. Humphrey noted that the Tax Sale is scheduled for October 16th and that fifty parcels of property remain on the list.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Community Corrections executive director Ashley Stevens requested that an amendment to the Community Corrections grant be approved in the amount of \$8,464. Mark Bacon moved to sign the amendment and Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A licensing and maintenance agreement and attached addendum with Paperless Business Solutions was then approved on a motion by Ken Masters and a second from Mark Bacon.

ECDC

John McCane, ECDC director reported that his office has been very busy. McCane reported that he has received two opportunities for the North Industrial Park and one for the South Industrial Park.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendant Jerry Sitton submitted his monthly report for August. Sitton shared that work will begin on September 9th on the First Covered Bridge and Rieth Riley Contractors will begin work on the Carthage Pike on October 1st.

SHERIFF

Sheriff Jeff Sherwood submitted the current Inmate Report with a population of 42. Sherwood explained that the law enforcement recorder was purchased in the last five years and that it was upgraded in the last year and a half. He does not feel that it needs to be replaced at this time. Sherwood is looking at the cost to replace all three 911 consoles.

EMS

The emergency run report was submitted for Anderson Township Fire Department.

Mark Bacon moved for a recess at 10:15 a.m. to conduct drainage board business.

Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:50 a.m. on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried.

EMA revisited

Chuck Kemker returned to address the issue of the 800 MHz refund. He was joined by Aaron Gurley a member of the Integrated Public Safety Commission. The question was offered as to who owned the radios and have any been replaced at county expense? Kemker noted that he had replaced batteries on some of the radios. Commissioner Levi made that motion to get permission to put the refund into a non-reverting fund. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

WEED PROBLEM

The board received a complaint of a weed problem in Posey Township. County Attorney, Leigh Morning will send a letter to the Posey Township Trustee to ask for assistance in this matter.

Claims were approved on a motion by Mark Bacon and seconded by Ken Masters. Mark Bacon moved to pay the payroll claims. Ken Masters seconded the motion.

Ken Masters moved to adjourn. Mark Bacon offered a second. Motion carried.

/s/ Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon
Mark Bacon

/s/ Ken Masters
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor

